

in the community, and to provide service to the community. It is with pleasure that I have the honor to commend the good work and future of the Mendocino Study Club.

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL TOBIN

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, Michael Tobin was an exceptional academic leader, a devoted and loving family man, and friend to many. While his passing brings great sadness, the memories of this extraordinary man bring solace to our community.

Early in life, Michael attended the University of Connecticut, where he was an active participant in ROTC. Following graduation, he entered the Air Force and served as a Second Lieutenant. He subsequently earned his PhD from the West Michigan University and would go on to teach at Southern Connecticut State University.

Between 1976 and 1992, Michael was a professor at Southern Connecticut State University. During his tenure, he taught educational leadership to students from our community and communities across the Nation and abroad. His professional work inspired countless students and instilled the qualities that we need in our future educational leaders.

Beyond these professional achievements, Michael was a devoted and loving family man. In his passing, the love shared by his extensive family reflects the strong bond that he shared with each.

Throughout these journeys, Michael called Vernon, Connecticut his home since 1963. He was an excellent neighbor and even better friend and his presence will certainly be missed. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me and my constituents in honoring his life and offering condolences to his family.

HONORING JERRY PRIETO, JR.

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Jerry Prieto, Jr. upon being honored with the 2008 Greater Fresno Area Chamber Agriculturist of the Year. Mr. Prieto was honored at a luncheon November 5, 2008, held at the Radisson Conference Center in Fresno, CA.

Jerry Prieto, Jr. is a native of Corcoran, CA. He is the son of a former migrant farm worker

and was raised in a small town with a small family. Mr. Prieto attended California State University, Fresno and obtained his bachelor's of science degree in Plant Science. In 1973, he began working for the Fresno County Department of Agriculture as a Seasonal Agricultural Aide assigned to track the removal and planting of permanent crops. He quickly became a Seasonal Agricultural Inspector assigned to the inspection of cantaloupes and grapes. In 1974, he worked on the Citrus White Fly eradication project and on June 28th was hired as a full-time Agricultural Inspector assigned to the Fresno District performing plant quarantine and pest detection inspections. He also performed inspections on pesticide use, farm worker safety, seeds, and nurseries. In 1977, he was transferred to the egg inspection division where he performed egg quality inspections.

Mr. Prieto was appointed as the Supervising Agricultural Biologist in charge of the egg inspection program in 1979. Within a year he was promoted to the position of Deputy Agricultural Commissioner in charge of the Grower and Consumer Protection Division responsible for the enforcement of laws and regulations pertaining to fruit, vegetable, and egg quality. In this position he was also responsible for gathering crop statistics and producing the Annual Crop and Livestock Report. By 1984, Mr. Prieto had transferred to Deputy Agricultural Commissioner of the Environmental Protection Division, where he enforced the laws and regulations pertaining to pesticide use, farm worker safety, and the coordination of the installation and implementation of the Fresno County Department of Agriculture's first computerized restricted use pesticide permit.

In 1989, Mr. Prieto left the Fresno County Department of Agriculture and took a position as a Senior Personnel Analyst with the Human Resources Division of the Fresno County Personnel Department. He supervised the county's labor relations, recruitment and exam programs. In 1993, he was appointed Fresno County Resource Manager. He was responsible for solid waste issues throughout the county and operated the American Avenue Regional Landfill, the Southeast Regional Landfill and the Coalinga Landfill. He was also responsible for providing road maintenance, street lighting, garbage collection, parks, and sewer and water services to 90 special districts.

Mr. Prieto was appointed to the position of Fresno County Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer of Weight and Measures exactly 25 years after he began working for the department. He was responsible for promoting and regulating the Nation's highest agriculture producing area. Mr. Prieto was appointed Chairman of Secretary Kawamura's AB 771 Honeybee/Seedless Mandarin Co-Existence Work-

ing Group. Mr. Prieto also served as a member of Governor Gray Davis' State Committee on Terrorism and the Western Weights and Measures Association Board of Directors. He served as the first Chairman of the California Agriculture Commissioners and Sealers Association's Food Safety and Agriculture Security Committee. He served as Chairman of the Fresno County Department Heads Council for 4 years. He is a member of the California State University, Fresno Agricultural Plant Science Advisory Committee and the Fresno County Farm Bureau. He is the Chairman of the Fresno County Council of Governments Model Farmland Preservation Committee and the Fresno County Land Conservation Committee. He is a past president of the California Agriculture Commissioners and Sealers Association. Mr. Prieto served as a judge for the Future Farmers of America California State Final competition for 23 years. For all of his service he has been honored with the "Distinguished Service Award" from the Fresno County Farm Bureau, and the "Service Award" from the Fresno-Kings Counties Cattleman's Association.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Jerry Prieto upon being awarded as the 2008 Greater Fresno Area Chamber Agriculturist of the Year. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Prieto many years of continued success.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, November 20, 2008 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.